





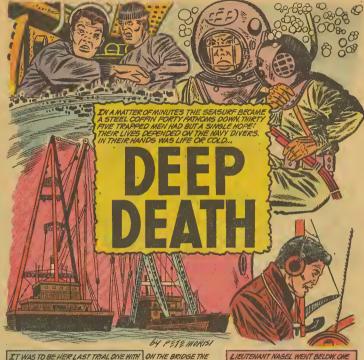
THIS IS SUSPENSE:

Valume 1, Number 25

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THIS IS SUSPENSE



IT WAS TO BE HER LAST TRAIL DIE WITH A SKELETON CREW, THUS, THE NEWLY SULT A SKELETON CREW, THUS, THE NEWLY SULT OF HER FULL COMPLEMENT OF FIFTY - SWELL COMPLEMENT OF FIFTY - SWELL HER DIESELS THYOOBED RIVITMICALLY AND DREW GREAT BREATHS THROUGH THE HUGE AND WIDDLETON FUNNEL JUST



ON THE BRIDGE THE SEASERFS COMMANDING OFFICER. LIEUTENANT PAUL MIGEL, STOOD EN-THEALLED BY THE RHYTH-MIC POWER OF THEYESSEL THEN HE TURNED TO EN-SIGN JOHN BENTON WHO WAS BESIDE HIM.

RIG FOR DIVING, BENTON,



LIEUTENANT NAGEL WENT BELOW OME BY ONE HIS ORDERS WERE CARRIED OUT. NOWALL LIGHTS ON THE CONTROL EXAM "THE "CHESTMAS TREE", WERE GREEN." ALL VENTS AND VALVES WERE CLOSED.



EVERYTHING WAS READY. THE DIESELS WERE SHUT OFF AND THE VESSEL NOW SWITCHED TO HER ELECTRIC MOTORS, FED BY GREAT STORAGE BATTERIES, THE SEASURF HAD BEGUN HER DIVE.





THE CREW SETTLED DOWN TO ITS ROUTINE. UNDER THE BHAGINE ROOM WERE THE ELECTRIC MOTORS AND THE BATTERY PITS. ELECTRICIAN'S STARTED CHECKING THE BATTERIES IN THE STERN.,



AS THE SUBMARINE LEVELED OFF LIEUTENANT NAGEL TOOK HIS PLACE AT THE PERISCOPE. HE WAS A CONTENTED MAN THAT DAY, HE COMMANDED THE NATION'S NEWEST SUBMARINE AND WHEN THE TESTS WERE OVER HE WOULD MARRY HAN HOLIDAY, QUITE AN ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR A MAN NOT YET THIRTY.







THE TREMENDOUS PRESSURE OF THE OCEAN DEPTHS SENT THE SEA FLOODING INTO THE ENGINE ROOM, FRANTICALLY THE MEN WORKED AT THE HAND LEVERS...



IMMÉDIATELY NAGEL ISSUED THE ORDER TO BLOW OUT ALL BALLAST THOUSANDS OF FOUNDS OF COMPRESSED AIR ROARED AND WHIPED OUT THE WATER OF THE BALLAST TANKS...



NOTA MOMENT TOO SOOM. THE MEN OF THE ENGINE ROOM LEFT THEIR STATIONS AND RUSHED FOR THE WATERTIGHT DOOR TO THE PORTINGE GALLEY, STRAINING EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH THEY HELD THE DOOR AGAINST THE MYTERS BEIGHT.



AND ONE STEP AHEAD OF DEATH THE MEN FROM THE ENGINE AND MOTOR ROOMS REACHED THE CONTROL ROOM...



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BUT THE GRAM TRUTH SOON MADE ITSELF KNOWN WITH SICKENING FINALITY. COMPRESSED AIR COULD NOT OFFSET THE RUSHING IN OF THE WATER, AND THE SEASURE STEPN FIRST, SLIO TO THE BOTTOM, TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET BELOW THE SURFACE!



ALL FROM THE STERN WERE ACCOUNTED FOR MON LIEUTENANT NAGEL PLACED THE ARMED SECRETE ON HIS NEAD, ALTHOUGH THE LIGHTS HAD SEEN TURY OFF TO PREVENT DISASTER, THE COMMUNICATIONS SISTEM RAN BY SEPHRATE BATTERIES..., MAGEL



ON THE BOTTOM OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN THIRTY-FIVE MEN WAITED THE EHDLESS ROURSMIT THE BITTERCOLL WITH OMLY A LIMITED SUPPLY OF AIR, WOULD RESCUE COME? ANDIF RESCUE WITH WHAT THEN Y THE MAY HAD ACTED GRICKLY WHEN THE SEASCHE DIO MANES SEARCHED THE SEA, WOUND THE FLAKES SHOT LIP BY THE SUNKEN SUBMARINE, NOW THE SALVIGE SHIP, LONE EAGLE SUNKEN SUBMARINE, NOW THE SALVIGE SHIP, LONE EAGLE



IT WAS 11:00 A.M. OF THE MORNING FOLLOWING THE SWKING THAT THE LONE EAGLE ANCHORED NEAR THE FLARES THAT HAD BEEN SENT UP DEEP LINES OF WORRY WERE EITCHED IN THE FACE OF FRANK'S, BENTON THE LONE EAGLIS COMMINDER

YOU GO DOWN FIRST, OWE'LL USE MORSE CODE WITH A LEAD HUGHES. TRY TO MAKE SOME KIND OF CONTACT, SENT FLARES UP SOME WERE SAFE.

WUGHES' HEAD THROBBED. HE FELT SICK, HE WON'S OBEREDIF HE WOULD BE ABLE TO STAY ONLY THE THOUGHT OF TRAPPED MEN KEFT HIM GOING, HE DIDN'T SEE

LATER THERE WOULD BE MANY EXPÉRT DIVERS ON THE SCANE, BUT TOONY THE BURDON RESTED ON FULR MEN, GEORGE HUGHES, YOUNGEST, 22, MAD NEVER BEEN IN DEEP WATER, NOT IN TWO HUND-RED AND PIFTY FEET, COULD HE STAND IT?



MUSHAS HEAD INKOUSEUR HE PELL SIZI, HE HOW DEFEDIR HE MOULD BE ABLE TO STAN, ONLY THE THOUGHT OF TRAPPED MEN KEPT HIM GOING, HE DIDN'T SEE DUTILE OF ANYTHING, HIS LIGHT GLOWED ONLY DIMLY THROUGH THE MURKY WATER, THEN HE FELT SOMETHING UNDER HIS FEET SOMETHING IN



MUGHES PHONED TO THE SURFACE HE WAS ON THE DECK OF THE SUNKEN SUBMARINE HE COULD NOT SEE OWENS, BUT HE COULD FEEL THE VIRRIPTIONS OF HIS AMMER TAPPING ON THE DECK, INSTINCTIVELY HE COULD SEE THE MASS OF THE COMMINS TOWER, HE WORKED HIS WAY ALONG.



THROUGH MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF ANXIOUS WAITING THE ME IN THE SEASERF COULD ONLY HOPE AND BELIEVE ... WITH THE FAITH OF NAVY MEN IN THE NAVY ... THEN SOUND



OWENS, ON THE BOTTOM, HAD RIGGED A SOUNDING BOLY TO THE SEASERE NOW THE LONE EAGLE'S SIGNAL MAN HEARD THE TAP TAP OF NAGEL'S R



GUIDING WIRES TO THE SUBMARINE



LIKE A GREAT PLANET SINKING IN THE SEA THE HUGE ESCAPE BELL DROPPED SLOWLY INTO SIGHT OF



THE WORK OF HUGHES AND OWEN WAS COMPLETE NOW, INSIDE THE HUGE ESCAPE BELL, EDM'ANDREWS WORKED THE AIR PRESSURE VALVES.

THE NECK IS RIGHT OVER THE HATCH, ED. RAISE THE AIR PRESSURE NOW AND WELL BLOW THE WATER

OKAY, SAM ... HERE I GOES!



OPENING THE DOOR IN THE BOTTOM OF THE ESCAPE LL, TONES LET HIMSELF DOWN INTO THE LOWER PARTMENT... ON THE VERY TOP OF THE SEASERFS BBER GASKET TIGHT AGAINST THE SUBMARINE

I'LL LOCK HER DOWN AND OPEN THE HATCH NOW ED SURE HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE



HOW'S THE WEATHER WHO COULD DO A JOB LIKE THAT BUT THE NAVY! NEEDLESS TO SAY YOU'RE A WELCOME SIGHT! DOWN THERES SIGHT 7 HE

THE FIRST LOAD WAS ON IT'S WAY UR SEVENMEN BESIDES JONES AND MANDREWS, THEY DIDN'T SAY MUCH, THEY HAD BEEN TOO CLOSE TO DEATH TO FEEL ELATED. THERE WAS JUST THE THANKFULNESS THAT SHOWED IN THEIR FACES, AND THE LOOK OF RELAXATION...



THEN THE FIRST SURVIVORS. REACHED THE DECK. THE DEEP LINES OF COMMANDER FRANK BENTON'S FACE STRETCHED INTO A BROAD SMILE. IT WAS THEN AND ONLY THEN THAT THE CREW OF THE LONE EAGLE REALIZED,

N

MY BOY!

MY BOY! DAD! IT'S SURE YOU! I WONDERED IF I EVER WOULD AGAIN!



FOUR TRIPS WERE MADE. THEN ON THE FIFTH, WITH THE LAST OF THE SURVIVORS, IT HAPPENED, ,... ONE OF THE GUIDED CABLES



OWEN WAS TO START SALVAGE WORK ON THE NEXT DAY, HE HAD GONE BELOW, ON DECK WAS ONLY THE YOUNGSTER GEORGE HUGHES ...

YOU'LL HAVE TO GO DOWN AGAIN, GEORGE. TRY TO UNSNARL THAT GUIDE WIRE, WE CAN'T RAISE THE BELL!

DOWN AND DOWN... UNTIL HE REACHED THE GRE BELL THAT HELD NINE LIVES, HUGHES STRUGGLES AGAINST THE PRESSURE, AND AGAINST THE PHYSIC AL STRAIN., AND AGAINST THE TANGLED MESS OF CABLES.



THE MEN ABOVE WERE AT A POINT OF DECISION. DARED THEY CUT THE OTHER CABLE AND LET THE BELL SWING FREE? COULD THE SINGLE STRAND HOLD THE WEIGHT UNTIL THE MEN COULD ESCAPE? THERE WAS NOTIME TO PONDER.A KNIFE WAS LET DOWN TO HUGHES ... A POWER WINCH TURNED.





THERE WAS NO TIME TO ALLOW FOR RECOMPRESSION. IN A MOMENT HUGHES WOULD HAVE BEEN CRUSHED TO JELLY BY THE AWFUL PRESSURE BELOW, THEY HAULED HIM UP,

QUICK! GET HIM TO THE RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER.



HINGHES WAS HURRIED TO THE RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER ABOARD THE LONE EAGLE, ONLY PROMPT ACTION COULD SAVE HIM FROM DEATH ... OR CRIPPLING PARALYSIS FROM THE DREADED'BENDS: FINALLY "THE LAST OF THE MEN BOARDED THE RESCUE VESSEL ,,

THE WORK OF YOU AND YOUR MEN WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY, NOT A MAN LOST!

AND NOW IF I COULD COURSE ASK ONE MORE FAVOR. I'D LIKE TO PUT THROU-COMMANDER BENTON. GH & CALL ON THE SHIP TO SHORE PHONE.





SALVAGE OF THE SEASERF WAS TO TAKE MONTHS OF GRUELLING WORK AND DANGER, BUTAFEW WEEKSLATER THE CREW OF BOTH THE LONE EAGLE AND THE SEASERF FOUND TIME TO ATTEND LIEUTENANT NAGLE'S WEDDING TO NAN HOLIDAY, AND ONE OF THE USHER'S AT THE WEDD ING WAS GEORGE HUGHES, THROUGH WHOSE COURAGE AT THE LAST MOMENT, THE WEDDING WAS MADE POSSIBLE

COPS 'N' ROBB



"DON'T WORRY_THAT'S MY BROTHER ... THE BLACK SHEEP OF THE FAMILY "



I HOPE IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS FOREVER _ ON DAYS LIKE THESE YOU'RE GLAD YOU'RE INSIDE "



ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, WHO'S THE WISE GUY &'





" I THINK HE USED TO BE A JAILBIRD ... HE ASKED IF I KNEW THE LOCK STEP "



INSTEAD OF GIVING MONEY AWAY I TOOK

FINGERPRINTS DON'T LIE!

IT WAS A CASE WHICH HAD THE POLICE OF CHICAGO BAFFLED ... THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE ROBBERY OF A HOTEL APART-MENT CONTAINING A FABULOUS DIAMOND ESTIMATED TO BE WORTH HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS! WHAT MADE IT SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE? SIMPLY THAT THE GEM WAS STORED IN A ROOM WHICH WAS TRIPLE-LOCKED ... A SET OF SAFE GUARDS GUARANTEED TO MAKE THE PROTECT-ING DOOR TAMPER-PROOF AN IMPOSSIBLE CASE OF ROBBERY IT WAS CALLED ... YET IT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CAPPIED OUT! SUCCESSFUL UP TO A CERTAIN POINT, THAT 15. FOR THE CRIMINALS WERE APPREHENDED WITHIN A WEEK ... TRAPPED BY THE FACT THAT

"FINGERPRINTS DON'T LIE"



IT WAS JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT THAT A MAND VOICE, CHOKED WITH INSTERIA, BABBLED THE NEWS TO POLICE HEBOQUARTERS! AND IT WAS TEN MINUTES LATER THAT INVESTIGATION WAS EGOUN....

B. BUT LOOK ... THE LOCK'S HAVEN'T BEEN TAMPERED WITH ... AND ALT THE WINDOWS HAVE BEEN CHARED ITS INPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE TO HAVE GOTTEN INTO THIS ROOM

IMPOSSIBLE, AR. MENDES? YES... FOR MOST MEN THAT TRANSOM WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ENTRE! BUT TO A CRIMINAL... ALMOST NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE! THAT TRANSOM... THAT'S HOW THE ROOM WAS ENTERED!















THERE'S THE SOLUTION TO THE CASE ..

JEP. THE FINGER PRINTS BELONGED TO
THE MONKEY! AFTER HE IS
OPENED THE BOOK FOR THEM
IT WAS DUK! SOUP FOR A
COURA THUSS LIKE THAT!
CETTING THEOLOGH THE RIMICH
MIGHT HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE
FOR A MAIN. BUT FOR A
MONKEY IT WAS A PICNIC!



THE MARGIOF GRANE













"YOU AND YOUR HURRY-UP! I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN AN UMBRELLA TOO!







WE WAS DREAMING, HE KNEW HE WAS DREAMING. HE WAS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE DREAM AT THE SAME TIME, BUT HE COULDN'T SKAP HIMSELF AWAKE...



ME KEPT TRYING TO TUG HIMSELF UP FROM SLEEP, BUT IT WAS AS IP HE WERE TIED TO THE BED WITH THICK HEAVY BANDAGES --- AND ALL MIGHT LONG THE HAND IN THE DREAM HOVERED OVER HIM



BUT THEN MORNING CAME WITH ITS JARRING MEDLEY OF ALARM CLOCKS RINGING IN OTHER APART MENTS WHERE PEOPLE HAD TO GET UP FOR WORK ---



THE SAT ON THE EDGE OF THE SED FOR A LONG TIME, STARING AT HIS OWN HANDS, REMEMBERING THE ONE IN THE DREAM...



BUT THEN HE SHOWERED, RUBBING HIMSELF HARD, OVER AND OVER AGAIN, UNTIL ALL THE SUSPENSE WAS WASHED OUT OF HIM....



AND BY THE TIME HE HIT THE STREET, HE WASN'T AFRAID ANY MORE!

COULD BE, IT WAS A SIGN THAT I'M DUE FOR A CHANGE OF LUCK, THE WAY THE CARDS HAVE BEEN RUNNING AGAINST ME LATELY... I SURE COULD USE SOME LUCK!



HE WAS A
GAMBLER -- AND
HIS BANKROLL
WAS LOWER THAN
HIS LUCK! AND
THAT WAS BAD.
WORD HAD
SPREAD AROUND

MAND NOBODY
WANTED TO
GIVE HIM A
CHANCE TO RECOUP,
THERE WAS NO
PERCENTAGE IN
PLAYING AGAINST
HIM NOW - HE
HAD TOO LITTLE

TO LOSE ...

ALL I NEED IS ONE
LICKY GAME...
JUST ONE
BELT WHERE M
I GOING TO
GET IT...

ST W

ST W







IT WAS FIVE-CARD STUD. HE PLAYED CAGEY AT FIRST, NURS-ING HIS THIN BANKROLL ALONG ...



TWO HOURS LATER HE WAS FOUR HUNDRED AHEAD, AND IT WAS HIS DEAL, HE FUPPED THE CARDS AROUND FAST AND GROANED WHEN HE DEALT HIM-SELF A DEUCE FOR A FACE CARD-



THEN HE PEEKED AT HIS HOLE

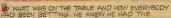
PAIR OF DEUCES,
BACK TO BACK! HMMM -THIS COULD DEVELOP INTO
SOMETHING AFTER ALL!





EVERYBODY STAYED, IT WAS A DREAM POT. THE FILE OF BILLS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TABLE, HUNDREDS MOSTLY, LAY CRAZY-CRISSCROSS, LIKE GREENS IN A SALAD...







HE RAISED THE LAST BET. THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF ANYBODY CALLING HIM. IT WAS ALL OVER NOW BUT THE SHOUTING....

I'VE BEEN THROWING BVERYTHING I HAVE INTO THIS POT! IF I ALL HIM, I'L BE CLEAN-ED OUT, BUT WHAT DO I HAVE TO LOSE? THE GUY MUST BE CRZCY! HE KNOWS I HAVE HIM BEAT! WHO IS HE ANYWAY? I'VE NEVER PLAYED AGAINST HIM BEFORE...!



BUT THEN THE MAN WHO HAD RAISED HIM DID SOMETHING STRANGE. HED BEEN WEARING GLOVES AND HE GLOVES OFF AND PLACED HIS BARE HANDS ON THE TABLE ...



TWO PAIRS SHOWING OVER THERE ... BUT I'VE DEALT MYSELF ANOTHER KING! THAT GIVES ME A FULL HOUSE -- THREE DEUCES ANO A PAIR OF MONARCHS!





T WAS A HAND -- THAT WAS ALL NOTHING BUT A MUSCULAR HAND WITH AN UNUSUAL RING ON ONE OF ITS FINGERS.



WH-WHAT DOES IT MEAN? I I KNOW I CAN WIN...AND IF I DON'T SEE HIM, I'LL BE DONN TO A HUNDRED! BUT THAT HAND. AND LAST MIGHT'S. DREAM...WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME IF I TAKE THE POT? WHAT SHOULD

IF YOU HAD DREAMED THE DREAM — AND IF YOU WERE SITTING IN AL'S PLACE NOW WHAT WOULD YOU

I DO ...?

WHAT WOULD YOU

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DOUBLE DIP



RIVATE DETECTIVE Pat Garrett leaned over the counter of Vincent's, the smartest jewelry shop in Hamilton City, trying to choose an engagement ring that he could afford. Pat wanted a diamond that was at least visible to the naked eve.

Vincent's catered to the most exclusive customers in town, like the portly gentleman at the next counter, leisurely examining a tray of rings offered by the obsequious clerk. He looked like the executive type, casually glancing over the glittering diamonds as though they were so many pebbles on the beach. He seemed unable to find a ring he liked from the sparkling tray offered by the clerk. He kept demanding something better.

Finally he shook his head in dismissal. The clerk expressed regret and started to replace the rings in the red velvet-lined box. But suddenly his face came up white, his eyes pools of consternation as he stared at the portly customer. He asked the customer to wait. Swiftly the clerk paced to the rear of the shop with the tray of rings and returned with the manager. The pink-jowled customer wiped his hands on a handkerchief as the manager bowed to him.

"There seems to be some discrepancy in the number of rings returned to the safe by our Mr. Carter," the manager began, "The most valuable ring is missing,"

The customer's face turned a deep red. His eyes blazed, "Are you accusing me of robbery?" he demanded in a loud voice. His air of the manager into retreat.

"Oh no, oh no, sir, I'm not accusing you of anything, Mr. . . ." he hesitated.

"Lee, Francis Lee,' supplied the customer, whipping 2 card from bis vest.

"Mr. Lee, Mr. Carter asked you to stay a moment because the missing ring is extremely valuable. We price it at twenty-five thousand dollars! Perhaps it fell into . . ." "My pocket?" exclaimed Mr. Lee. "Search me! I demand to be searched at once!"

Pat approached the troubled manager. This was right up his alley. "Perhaps I can help?" he introduced himself. "I'm a private detective. Name's Garrett."

At first the manager cold-shouldered Pat. But he was unwilling to let the customer go unsearched. "I may be interested. This gentleman demands to be searched. I would like it done by som-one not connected with this shop. Can you do it?"

Pat smiled. "Baby stuff."

The manager, Mr. Simpson, invited Mr. Lee into his private office. The clerk and Pat followed, listening to threats of legal action that rolled from Lee.

Pat frisked him professionally. Then he had Lee empty his pockets. The manager's desk soon exhibited a gold pocket knife, a handkerchief, a wallet, loose change and a few sticks of gum. But no ring.

The manager apologized to Mr. Lee, shook hands and ushered him out of the store. Mr. Lee seemed somewhat mollified as he left. The manager turned to Pat.

"Where could the ring have gone?" he asked, worried. "We are insured for the loss, but this bas never happened hefore at Vincent's."

"How about your clerk, Carter?"

"Out of the question. Carter has been with us twenty years." Mr. Simpson rubbed his hands in exasperation. Absent-mindedly he tried to rub off some grayish spots on his right palm. Ha tried again with a handkerchief, but tha spots stayed on.

"Wbat's the matter?" Pat inquired.

"These spots on my hand. They won't come off. I can't imagina where they cama from."

As Pat examined Mr. Simpson's hand easually, something snapped into place in bis mind. "Mr. Simpson," he said, "that ring must be somewhere in this shop. Let's Search the place." Simpson didn't quite understand, but he

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joined Pat and the clerk in a search of the premises. Pat went over it inch by inch, crawling on the deeply cushioned rug. An hour later Pat found what he was looking for and pocketed it quietly.

With a broad smile, he turned to the worried manager and told him, "Mr. Simpson, that Mr. Lee is a crook, a slick operator with a new twist, but we're going to set a trap that will lead us right to him. First I need some wire."

The puzzled manager found it for him. After Pat set up a simple device with the wire, they retired to the manager's office to wait. The routine of Vincent's proceeded as usual through the quiet afternoon.

Late in the day, just before closing time, a tall, slim, gray-haired man sauntered in, sporting an elegant cane which he hooked over the counter just where Lee had stood. Casually he acknowledged Simpson's greeting and showed his brilliant white teeth in a smile of appreciation when a tray of rings was brought out for his inspection.

He screwed a monocle into his eye and seemed bored as he examined the rings, unaware of the watchful eyes of Carter, Simpson and Pat from the office. Dissatisfied with the rings, he reached for his cane. Something came away in his hand as he grasped the handle of the expensive stick. It was done so deftly that none of the three men watching him was aware of it. But Pat was out of the manager's office in a flash. He caught up with the tall man at the door.

"Just a minute, sir," Pat said. The man was not willing to wait, however. He tried to pull away from Pat's firm grip on his elbow. "It's no good," Pat continued. "Even if you got away from me, you wouldn't find the ring in your hand." The hand in question closed convulsively. The man's face changed from white to red and back again.

"I don't understand," he said icily.

"Yes, you do," Pat assured him as he led him back to the manager's office, protesting loudly. Pat asked Mr. Simpson to call the police.

"We've got the goods on him," Pat said, as he forced open the unwilling hand of the welldressed man. The police arrived in a few minutes. One of the detectives recognized the customer.

"It's 'Shiner' Cornwall! What are you doing in this neck of the woods? We thought you were up the river with your partner, 'Sparkler' Lee." He turned to Simpson. "What've they done now, cleaned up the place?" Simpson refered him to Pat.

"These two cooked up a very clever scheme. I didn't catch on when Lee was here this morning, but when I saw the spots on Simpson's hand, I knew what they were—chewing gum! When Lee came in pretending to be a busy executive, he had a wad of chewed gum in his palm. As he examined the rings Carter showed him, he scooped one into the gum and stuck it under the edge of the counter. That left him clean when he demanded to be searched. But the sticks of gum in his pocket, together with those spots on Simpson's palm, gave me the lead I was looking for. We searched the place and I found the ring under the counter where Lee had left it."

"You found it?" interrupted Simpson. "Yes," answered Pat, taking the ring out of his pocket and handing it to the manager. "I didn't tell you about it because I was afraid you might spoil my trap. I knew that someone else, probably a partner with whom he cased the place, would come in to pick it up. I ran wires under the counter from the gum to the manager's office, so a signal would flash if the gum were moved. Cornwall here came in and put on his act. He grabbed the wad of gum when he took his cane off the counter."

THE DETECTIVE assured Simpson that they would soon have Lee in their hands too. Justice would be swift for the two crooks.

Pat was on his way out when the manager stopped him.

"You didn't come here as a private detective, did you? I believe you were looking for something—an engagement ring? Vincent's would like to show our appreciation."

That was how Pat Garrett got a ring for his girl that was very visible to the naked eye.

THE END

















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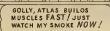
HEY, SUGAR. WHY DON'T YOU QUIT THAT **HUMAN SKELETON** ANO GET A REAL MAN LO

(SEE HERE, YOU BETTER SHUT UP OR I'LL_

YOU'LL WHAT -) (OH, JOE, WHEN YOU POOR CHUMP ARE YOU GOING

TO GROW UP AND







ONE HAND IS AS LITHERE GOES GOOD AS TWO WHEN THE BELL -YOU'RE AN ATLAS JOE, YOU'RE A CHAMP WONOERFUL

OUT OF THE LO-OH, JOE, YOU'RE WAY SMALL-FRY MORE THAN MAKE WAY FOR HE-MAN HE-MAN NOW A MAN



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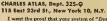
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